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FEA 10

August 22, 2006

U.S.F.S. Fire Retardant EA.
c/o The Content Analysis Group
PO Box 2000
Bountiful, UT 84001-2000

Gentlemen:

I don't have a problem with the use of air tankers or helicopters dropping fire retardants which is an excellent tool for fire suppression. However, I do have a concern about what is in the retardants.

The mitigation measure that prohibits the use of fire retardants that contain sodium ferrocyanide is good. There needs to be another mitigation measure that prohibits the use of diammonium phosphate, ammonium phosphate, and ammonium sulfate. These chemicals are very harmful to the environment and are required by the USFS to be in a long term fire retardant (look at the long term specifications 5100-304b.) The USFS believes that in order to be considered a long term fire retardant you must have chemicals in it. This is simply not true since there are fire retardants that are long term without harmful chemicals, but they can't meet the USFS specification 5100-304b. If the USFS could change their specifications it would eliminate most of their problems.

If you would like further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Harry Chappell
Harry Chappell

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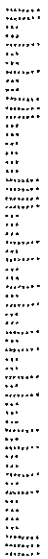


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